



Hawthorne Lane Bridge Closure

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How long will the bridge be under construction?

12-18 months. It is estimated the bridge will reopen in March 2019. Reconstruction will consist of demolition, steel erection, concrete work, rail installation, and other miscellaneous work.

Why was 7th St to Central Ave determined as the detour?

The detour route was selected because both roads (7th and Central) are multilane roads that are designed to handle higher volumes of traffic. CDOT will not detour traffic onto primarily residential, one-lane roads. CDOT also recently installed a left turn phase at the traffic signal at the 7th and Central Ave intersection. These factors give motorists the quickest and most direct detour route.

Will Independence Boulevard (US 74) experience any lane closures?

Yes. The lane closures will be coordinated with NCDOT. Independence Boulevard will close during overnight hours to safely conduct certain elements of construction including demolition and steel erection. Coordination will ensure that Independence is not closed during rush hour or special events. Safety is the City's number one priority.

Will the bridge maintain its current look?

After reconstruction, the bridge will contain the same elements as the existing bridge with the addition of the streetcar tracks and overhead wires. In the development of bridge plans, the city worked with Historic Elizabeth Neighborhood Foundation, the NCDOT, and the State Historic Preservation Office to maintain the bridge's look, feel and function as a local street.





What will the new bridge look like?

The new bridge's features include the installation of a center median with OCS poles as well as bike lanes. These features will encourage motorists to maintain slow speeds in crossing the bridge.

What is the cost associated with the bridge replacement?

Approximately \$5-6 million which is included in the total CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2 construction budget.

Why is the bridge being replaced? Was the original structure not sound?

The Hawthorne Lane bridge is approximately 25-years-old. Bridges typically have a lifespan of 30-50 years. Knowing that the bridge would need to be replaced in the near future, a decision was made to include the reconstruction of the bridge with Phase 2 of the Gold Line. Reconstruction is also necessary to be able to accommodate the future tracks and streetcar.

Who is doing the construction?

The Johnson Bros. Corporation, a subsidiary of Southland Holdings LLC, will be the prime contractor on the Phase 2 project.

How can I stay informed on this closure?

Charlotte residents can stay informed on the CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2 project by visiting www.ridetransit.org and also by signing up for [NotifyMe](#) to receive information on road closures and project updates.